

Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains consist of different applications and are regulated by ANSI. They are utilized for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and lift truck masts, and as balancers between counterweight and head in some machine devices. Leaf chains are at times also referred to as Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

Made of a simple pin construction and link plate, steel leaf chains is identified by a number which refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have specific features like for example high tensile strength for every section area, that allows the design of smaller machines. There are B- and A+ kind chains in this series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series comprise the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered utilizing sprockets.

Selection and Handling

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, while in leaf chains, only two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the maximum allowable tension is low. If handling leaf chains it is vital to confer with the manufacturer's instruction booklet so as to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety measures all the time. It is a good idea to apply utmost care and utilize extra safety guards in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the use of a lot more plates. Because the utilization of more plates does not enhance the maximum permissible tension directly, the number of plates may be restricted. The chains need regular lubrication in view of the fact that the pins link directly on the plates, generating a very high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally advised for the majority of applications. If the chain is cycled more than one thousand times on a daily basis or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it would wear extremely fast, even with continual lubrication. So, in either of these conditions the use of RS Roller Chains would be a lot more suitable.

The AL-type of chains should only be utilized under particular conditions like for instance if wear is really not a big problem, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not exceed 100 day by day. The BL-type will be better suited under various conditions.

The stress load in components would become higher if a chain using a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is also used among corrosive conditions, it could easily fatigue and break extremely fast. Performing frequent maintenance is really important when operating under these types of situations.

The inner link or outer link kind of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers, but the user normally supplies the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can reduce the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the maker. Refer to the ANSI standard or phone the maker.